

dream time of their great ancestors in history  
 This gift we now know as LACROSSE, so much achieves.  
 Building character and strength, and such teamwork to cement all who intervene  
 Now, growing far and wide all throughout our country sides  
 For no greater game has yet to be devised  
 As it reaches deep down into ones very soul  
 As does their fine gift to America to behold.  
 Running on the wind.  
 To them so much we owe.  
 Ode to The Native American, who've given us this great game we all love and know  
 Of stamina and courage, and of grace, which put smiles upon our face  
 Of skill and such grit, and the teamwork so all in it  
 With such might and speed she gives us all we need.  
 Ah' running on the wind, the breeze, Lacrosse  
 All in this Native American's Game of Speed.

TRIBUTE TO ROB VAN TASSEL,  
 FLORIDA BIG BROTHER OF THE  
 YEAR

**HON. DAVID W. JOLLY**

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, June 10, 2016*

Mr. JOLLY. Mr. Speaker, I would like to recognize a member of our community, Rob Van Tassel, for being named Florida's Big Brother of the Year.

Mr. Van Tassel is a logistics manager with Southwire, a manufacturing company based in Clearwater, Florida. He graduated from Dunedin High School in 1975 and has been a Pinellas County resident for many years now. Inspired by the way his father had raised him and encouraged by his own daughter, Mr. Van Tassel decided to join Big Brothers and Big Sisters and give back to the community that had given him and his family so much. In 2008, Mr. Van Tassel was matched with his current little brother Seth. For Seth, Rob is a supportive shoulder to lean on and a thoughtful advisor who keeps him focused on his education and making decisions that are beneficial for the rest of his life. Rob's work with Seth is truly exceptional.

Rob believes that children need strong mentors for guidance, and that it is our responsibility to help guide children and young adults who need help finding their way. In addition to being named Florida's Big Brother of the Year, Mr. Van Tassel is also being considered for the national Big Brother of the Year award.

Mr. Speaker, I want to thank Rob Van Tassel for dedicating his time and efforts to our community. He has a strong desire to give back and, in turn, has inspired others to do so as well. I thank Rob for what he has done and I ask that this body join me in honoring and acknowledging Rob for his award and dedication to Pinellas County.

CELEBRATING DÍA DE PORTUGAL

**HON. JIM COSTA**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, June 10, 2016*

Mr. COSTA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today with Mr. NUNES of California, Mr. VALADAO of California, Mr. CICILLINE of Rhode Island, Mr. DENHAM of California, Mr. ZELDIN of New York, Ms. LOFGREN of California, Mr. MCGOVERN of Massachusetts, and Mr. HONDA of California to recognize Día de Portugal. On June 10 each year, Día de Portugal celebrates the Portuguese people, their strong heritage, and their beautiful country and culture.

Día de Portugal honors the death of the revered Portuguese poet Luís Vaz de Camões in 1580. While his mastery of verse has been compared to both Shakespeare and Dante, Camões is famously known for his epic "Os Lusíadas," one of Portugal's most treasured literary works. The poem pays tribute to Portugal's golden age of exploration and celebrates the many world-changing discoveries made by its seafaring explorers in the 15th century.

In his poem, Camões speaks of the Portuguese as destined to accomplish great deeds, and they have. This rings especially true of the more than one million Portuguese-Americans who have been contributing to and enriching culture in the United States for generations. Americans of Portuguese descent are responsible for tremendous growth and innovation, whether it be in the arts, agriculture, sports, or the highest levels of American government. The unbreakable bond between Portugal and the United States goes back many years—to the very founding of our nation.

After the Revolutionary War, Portugal was one of our first allies and one of the first countries to officially recognize the United States. In 1791, President George Washington formalized diplomatic relations with Portugal, and our relationship is stronger than ever more than 200 years later.

Today, Portugal is not just our friend and ally, but an important strategic partner for the United States. We must never forget the role of Portugal and Lajes Field during World War II, when the Portuguese helped us protect supply ships, identify U-boats, and win the war against fascism. As home to the U.S. Air Force's 65th Air Base Wing, Lajes Field was instrumental in our efforts during the Cold War and the Yom Kippur War and continues to be a critical asset in the Atlantic.

Mr. Speaker, my colleagues and I join hands with the people of Portugal to reaffirm our commitment to strengthening the many ties between us, and we vow to ensure our relationship remains strong and robust. Along with the people of Portugal and Portuguese-Americans throughout the United States, we wish everyone a happy and joyous Día de Portugal.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

**HON. DIANE BLACK**

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, June 10, 2016*

Mrs. BLACK. Mr. Speaker, on Roll Call Number 283 on Consideration of the Resolu-

tion for H. Res. 771 which took place Thursday, June 9, 2016, I am not recorded because I was unavoidably detained.

Had I been present, I would have voted Aye on Roll Call Number 283 on Consideration of the Resolution for H. Res. 771.

HONORING PATRICIA D. WISE

**HON. BENNIE G. THOMPSON**

OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, June 10, 2016*

Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor a remarkable public servant, Judge Patricia D. Wise. Elected in 1989, she is one of four Chancellors of the Fifth Chancery Court District of Hinds County, Mississippi.

Formerly, Mrs. Wise was managing attorney and partner in the law firm of Dockins & Wise, Attorneys at Law, Jackson, Mississippi. Her private practice was in the area of Domestic Relations-Family Law, Personal Injury and General Civil practice. She served as Family Law Resource Attorney for Central Mississippi Legal Services.

An Oxford, Mississippi native, she has lived in Jackson, Mississippi for the past thirty-five years. She received her Bachelor of Science in Special Education, her Master's of Communicative Disorders and her Juris Doctorate degree all from the University of Mississippi.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing Judge Patricia D. Wise for her dedication to serving others.

TRIBUTE TO KEN DEKA

**HON. DAVID W. JOLLY**

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, June 10, 2016*

Mr. JOLLY. Mr. Speaker, I would like to recognize Mr. Ken Deka, a veteran and member of our community, for his work to honor our troops on a nightly routine.

Mr. Deka moved to Indian Rocks Beach after retiring. He would occasionally play "Taps" on his bugle for his neighbors, and it soon became a nightly tradition. Now, Mr. Deka's rendition of "Taps" has become a community staple, and he can be heard playing it every night for his neighbors on Indian Rocks Beach.

Mr. Deka says he does it for the men and women currently serving, veterans, those military personnel who have already passed, and family members of his who have served, like his brother, a veteran who passed away five years ago. He wants to continue to honor those who, like Mr. Deka and his brother, have given so much to our country and remind all of his neighbors to be grateful for our military.

Mr. Speaker, I would like to thank and acknowledge Mr. Ken Deka for his service to our country, and for his continued efforts to remember and recognize our men and women in uniform. I ask that this body join me in thanking Mr. Ken Deka for his continued support for our veterans.